

# Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

*An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022



**GOD IS STILL SPEAKING**

*NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE, OR WHERE YOU ARE ON  
LIFE'S JOURNEY YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!*



### **Worship Leadership**

Preacher: The Rev. John J. Ward-Diorio

Pastor Allyssa A. Boyer

Lector: Kathy Aumiller

### **Ministry of Music**

Minister of Music: Eric R. Dundore

Choristers' Director: Jonneke A. Dundore

Assistant Music Director: Mark A. Dundore

Organist: Sarah A. Myers

Assistant Organist: Patrice G. Miller

### **Ministry of Audio and Video**

Jeffrey A. Dundore

### **Ministry of Service**

Head Usher: Jim Pirtle

Ushers: Steve Roush, Wendy Hayden, Fenton Fox

Paula Boyer, Rebecca Drazba

Nursery: Erin Anderson, Bonnie Plymette

Flower Delivery: Dale Thorpe and Don Dupes

### **Pastor Emeritus**

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold

### **Ministers**

The Entire Congregation

*Please visit the church website at <http://www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org/> to sign up for Acolyte, Usher, Lector, Volunteer in the Nursery, Deliver the Altar Flowers, and/or Sponsor the Altar Flowers. You will find the individual sign-up sheets under the "Sign Up" menu heading. Thank you.*



## **ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**

**717/766-7931**

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*St. Paul's Online Giving*

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
SERVICE OF WORSHIP

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022

*Please note: the livestream broadcast begins with the Announcements. If you do not wish to appear in the livestream, it is best to sit in one of the back three pews of the Sanctuary.*

*We will not be passing the microphone around.*

*Please write up any Prayer Requests ahead of time, leave them in the Red Bowl or give them to the Head Usher. They will bring them forward.*

***\*Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to stand.***

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ORGAN PRELUDE

“It Is Well With My Soul”

Robert J. Hughes

*We will be singing with our masks in place*

\* HYMN #86

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**God of New Life, guide us in seeing what is possible for ourselves and for Your world. Throughout Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection, he demonstrated how we best can live. May we aspire to live likewise. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

We can at times believe that God does not forgive us because of a wrong we have done. Perhaps that is because we have experienced the lack of forgiveness even loved ones have demonstrated. And yet, Jesus demonstrates over and over again that God’s forgiveness is for all. Let us join in the time of Silent Prayers of Confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Responsive):

Minister: God does indeed forgive us and hopes we will be empowered by that forgiveness.

**All: Let us live as the forgiven people we are, not taking that as a green light to do whatever we want but rather as a gift that can draw us closer to God and more fully open our spirits to God’s speaking to us. Amen.**

*Please note: we will not be shaking hands or hugging.  
If you are able, please rise and greet one another with other signs of Peace.*

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*THE GLORIA PATRI (#759 is the tune, but not all the same words)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

*Children are invited to the front at this time. They may sit on the chancel steps, they may sit in the front pews, or they may remain seated with their families. Remember, everyone who comes forward will be on camera.*

SING THE CHILDREN TO THE FRONT

Jesus Loves the Little Children

*Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world*

*Shy and Joyful, Bold and Bright*

*They are precious in his sight*

*Jesus loves the little children of the world.*

THE WORD FOR THE YOUNG

SING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR SEATS

Jesus Loves Me

*Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so*

*Little ones to him belong. They are weak but He is strong.*

*Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me*

*Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so*

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 9: 1-9

THE PSALM READING

Psalm 30

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE:

John 21: 1-19

“New Life Can Be Like This”



## THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

### THE INVITATION:

One: God Be with You.

**Many: And Also With You.**

One: Lift Up Your Hearts.

**Many: We Lift Them Up to God.**

One: Let Us Give Thanks to God.

**Many: It Is Good to Give God Thanks and Praise.**

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts and debtors)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS:

Today we gather both in person and in Spirit.

For those of you present in the Sanctuary, our ushers will be passing out the bread and gluten-free crackers and the wine and white grape juice. They will bring the trays to you. Unless you are sitting with a family unit, please do not pass the trays down but rather give them back to the usher.

For those of you joining us via livestream, we hope you have some bread and wine or juice of your choice before you. We trust that God is powerful enough to extend God's Blessings upon these Communion Elements, even as we and they are scattered in geographic space.

Please hold the elements until all have been served. We will eat and drink them together.

All are welcome to participate. Thank you.

#### THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Responsive):

**Holy God, we give You thanks for the miracle and wonder of this meal. We give You thanks for Your coming to us in the person of Jesus and for Jesus' willingness to offer his whole self for our benefit. We can see how we can best live our lives. We can believe all "deaths", those losses, endings and struggles in this life, and the ones at the end of our physical lives, are not the final word. We can trust that Your Spirit is within all of us, and always will be. May the gifts of this table always remind us of the gifts You have given us all. Amen.**

\* HYMN

Peter Said, "I'm Going Fishing"  
(To the tune of #43 – "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling")

Peter said, "I'm going fishing," so his friends went out with him.  
Through the night, they labored, watching, Hauling empty nets back in.  
In the grey of early morning, Jesus, you came walking by.  
From the beach you called a greeting, "Cast out on the other side!"

Soon their nets were filled to brimming; Someone cried, "It is the Lord!"  
Jumping in, he started swimming; Christ, you met him on the shore.  
Guiding them to better waters, Eating fish, and sharing bread —  
You showed Peter and the others: You were risen from the dead!

Risen Christ, you send us fishing! God's great sea is everywhere.  
You have guided us in mission, You have given love to share.  
Through the years, our church has heard you, We have answered your great call:  
"Cast your nets where I have told you. Bring my word of love to all!"

Lord, be with our congregation; By your spirit, send us forth!  
May we care for your creation; May we work for peace on earth.  
In our worship, in our giving, In our serving those in need,  
May we know, Lord; you are living, Guiding us in ministry.

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\*THE BIDDING TO MISSION

\*THE WORLD PEACE PRAYER

One: Lead us, O God.

**All: Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.**

**Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.**

**Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.**

**Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen.**

\*THE BENEDICTION

\* THE THREE-FOLD AMEN

*Please note: the livestream continues until the end of the Postlude.  
Please know you are free to leave following the Three-fold Amen,  
and exit to the Narthex to speak with one another.*

*Do remember you may be visible and audible on the livestream as you exit early.  
If you choose to remain, please be seated and listen quietly to the Postlude.*

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE

“Sing Praise to God”

Edward Broughton

References:

Cover Art: Swanson, John August. The Great Catch, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56550> [retrieved April 12, 2022]. Original source: [www.JohnAugustSwanson.com](http://www.JohnAugustSwanson.com) - copyright 1993 by John August Swanson.

The Prayer of Dedication is from “Gathered by Love” by Lavon Bayler, 1995, United Church Press.

The World Peace Prayer is a paraphrase of a verse from the Upanishads, the most ancient scriptures of Hinduism, also prayed daily by Roman Catholic Benedictine nuns.

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by  
Paula and Mark Boyer, “Celebrating Pastor Allyssa’s final step toward ordination.”  
Brian Medkeff-Rose, “In memory of my husband Lee Jackson.”

## **HYMN # 86 - When Morning Gilds the Skies**

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer, one purpose I declare:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

New strength come night or day when from the heart we say:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Let sin and evil fear, when this sweet chant they hear:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Discordant humankind, in this your concord find,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Let all the earth around ring joyous with the sound:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this the eternal song, through all the ages long:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

## **HYMN ##172 - Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult (vs. 1,4+5 only)**

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;

Day by day that voice still calls us, saying "Christian, follow me!"

In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,

Jesus calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."

Jesus calls us! By your mercies, Savior, may we hear your call;

Give our hearts to your obedience, serve and love you best of all!